

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 TRSE-00 AID-05 /084 W

-----041454Z 057858 /40

R 041336Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6337

USMISSION NATO

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

CINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

USDOCOSOUTH/POLAD NAPLES

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 0874

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, NATO, GR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS REPORT ON GREECE AND NATO

REF: (A) ATHENS 1040, DTG 021434Z FEB 77 (NOTAL); (B) USNATO 470,

DTG 271800Z JAN 77 (NOTAL)

1. LIBERAL DAILY "MILLIYET" FEBRUARY 4 CARRIED REPORT DATEDLINE

BRUSSELS

BY ITS RESPECTED FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT, MEHMET ALI BIRAND, STATING

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THAT GREECE HAS ASKED NATO TO CANCEL JOINT DEFENSE PLANS BASED
ON COOPERATION BETWEEN NATO AND TURKEY, BUT HAS PROMISED TO
"COME CLOSER" TO NATO MILITARY INTEGRATION PROVIDED THIS
READJUSTMENT IS MADE. BIRAND'S REPORT, WHICH APPEARED ON PAGE
3, SAID THAT IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS POSED BY NATO IN MARCH
1976, GREECE IS SEEKING TANGIBLE AND MORAL ASSURANCES AGAINST
POSSIBLE AGGRESSION FROM TURKEY AND PUT FORWARD A PROPOSAL TO

LINK GREECE WITH THE NATO COMMAND IN NAPLES RATHER THAN IZMIR.

2. ACCORDING TO BIRAND, FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW GREEK POSITION:

--- "GREECE WILL OBSERVE ALL RULES OF THE ALLIANCE, JOINT DEFENSE PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGY IN AS MUCH AS OTHER MEMBERS OBSERVE THEM. HOWEVER, THE GENERAL PLANS OF THE SOUTHERN WING SHOULD BE REVISED BECAUSE OF THE THREAT POSED BY AN ALLY. FURTHERMORE, NATO SHOULD ALSO REINFORCE ITS "CRISIS ADMINISTRATION" MECHANISM AND PREVENT CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN ALLIES.

--- THE GREEK ARMY WILL REMAIN WITHIN THE ALLIANCE, BUT UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND IN PEACETIME. THE NATO-ASSIGNED (NUCLEAR-CAPABILITY) UNITS WILL BE LINKED WITH THE ALLIED COMMAND CHAIN AT THE "REINFORCED ALARM" STAGE, INSTEAD OF THE "SIMPLE ALARM" STAGE, AS WAS THE CASE BEFORE.

--- TARGETS WILL BE ESTABLISHED BY NATO IN THE EVENT OF WAR, AS WAS THE CASE BEFORE, HOWEVER, THE CONTROL OF GREEK FORCES WILL REMAIN UNDER THE NATIONAL COMMAND IN AN OPERATION.

--- THE DEFENSE OF THE SOUTHERN WING WILL NO LONGER BEASED ON COOPERATION BETWEEN TURKISH AND GREEK ARMEDORIES RUN BY AN AMERICAN GENERAL IN THE IZMIR HEADQUARTERS. GREEK FORCES WILL HENCEFORTH BE DIRECTLY LINKED TO NAPLES. A NEW PLAN SHOULD BE DRAWN UP TO ESTABLISH WITH WHICH FORCES THE GREEK UNITS WILL COOPERATE IN TIME OF WAR.

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--- NATO SHOULD EXTEND ARMS AID TO THE GREEK ARMY.

--- GREEK TERRITORY, SEAS, AND TERRITORIAL WATERS, COMMUNICATION CHANNELS AND EARLY-WARNING RADAR CAN BE USED BY THE NATO ALLIES, EXCLUDING TURKEY.

--- GREECE WILL TAKE PART IN ALL NATO DEFENSE PLANS, INFORMATION EXCHANGES AND NUCLEAR PLANNING WHICH CONSTITUTES THE BACKBONE OF THE ALLIANCE." MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA00874
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770040-1246
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770274/aaaacnfd.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 21e097cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ATHENS 1040
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Jul-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3412358
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REPORT ON GREECE AND NATO
TAGS: MARR, MPOL, GR, TU, NATO
To: STATE NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/21e097cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009